

CONFIDENTIAL.]

[No. 5 of 1875.]

REPORT ON NATIVE PAPERS

FOR

The Week ending the 30th January 1875.

In a lengthy editorial, the *Moorshedabad Patriká* of the 9th January questions the accuracy of the census taken in 1871. The mass of the people, groaning under the pressure of over-taxation, could not by any means be convinced that the census was to be used for any other purpose than that of obtaining correct data for the imposition of a new tax. The numbers could not be accurately obtained under these circumstances. It is not therefore easy to understand how the assertion is generally made that there has been an increase of population in India, while it remains a fact that, in India, once only has a census been taken (in 1871), and even that could not possibly be correct. Far from supporting this assertion, a consideration of the facts of the case will rather show that causes are constantly at work which prevents an increase of population. These are diseases and scarcity of food. It will also be found that the statement so frequently made, as to famines in this country being caused by an over-plus of population, is wholly unfounded.

MOORSHEDABAD
PATRIKA,
January 9th, 1875.

2. A correspondent of the same paper complains, that the removal of the Moonsif's court from Goás to Azimgunge has subjected the omláhs and the suitors to extreme inconvenience for want of good lodgings and accommodation, which cannot be had in that place. A great part of Azimgunge lies under water during the rainy season, and the place does not moreover occupy a central position in regard to the entire extent of its jurisdiction. The attention of the authorities is drawn to the subject.

MOORSHEDABAD
PATRIKA.

3. The *Sádháraní* of the 17th January notices, with great gratification, the abolition of the post of Commissioner of Cotton and Commerce with the Government of India from the commencement of the ensuing financial year. This measure has been a move in the right direction. Almost all former attempts at reducing the needless expenditure of Government have generally ended in the abolition of the posts of a few hard-working and ill-paid native clerks and *duftries*, while big, but useless, European officials on high salaries were left unmolested, and passed over in silence. A different policy, however, seems to have been pursued by Lord Northbrook in this case. Properly considered, there was no necessity for creating the post which is now abolished. The Secretary of State, whose order must be obeyed, recommended the appointment of an officer for this purpose, only to gratify the powerful Manchester merchants; not being in the least careful to consider the burdens that were in this way imposed on India. That the post in question was a needless one, will also appear from the fact that its importance was not recognized prior to 1866, when the demand for Indian cotton—the American supply having failed—was most pressing. A large amount of public funds has been wasted by this

SADHARANI,
January 17th, 1875.

appointment by the Secretary of State. There is much wasteful expenditure incurred in this way. But for this the Secretary of State is more at fault than the Government of India. In conclusion, Lord Northbrook is besought not to relax his efforts in this direction. A number of needless posts was created under his predecessors, to the utter disregard of public opinion. These should be now abolished, without making any distinction of the color of the incumbents, and Indian finance restored to order.

GRAMBASI,
January 18th, 1875.

4. The *Grámbási* of the 18th January notices a fearful outbreak of cholera in Málipotá, Fulle and adjacent villages in sub-division Ránághát. Government is requested to send medical aid without delay.

BISHWA DUT,
January 14th, 1875.

5. In a lengthy editorial on the use of intoxicating drugs and drinks, the *Bishwa Dút* of the 14th January remarks, that though the English are fully aware of the injurious consequences, suffered by the people of this country, from an extensive use of intoxicating drugs and drinks, still, from a love of the revenues derived from these sources, Government cannot and will not adopt vigorous measures to arrest the progress of this growing evil. Not only India, but even China is being ruined through this reprehensible policy of Government.

BISHWA DUT.

6. The same paper of the 20th January thus concludes an article on the miserable condition of Baroda:—We are highly gratified to learn that there will be no annexation. We shall, however, make one remark here. Government overlooked the former graver offences of the Guicowar, but has now inflicted on him a severe punishment for attempting to poison the Resident. If that Chief had been timely punished by Government for the crimes which he committed formerly, his oppressions might perhaps have been considerably checked, and the misery of the Baroda State in all probability avoided.

BISHWA DUT.

7. The same paper directs the attention of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor to the injustice, that would be done to some of the teachers of Government aided schools, who have been studying in the Native Civil Service Classes, if they are now declared incompetent under the circular orders of the 18th December 1874 from appearing at the ensuing examination. No objections were raised at the time, of their admission into the Native Civil Service Class which was opened on the 1st September.

BISHWA DUT.

8. Adverting to the inconvenience of the inhabitants of villages under Dáspore thana, in the district of Midnapore, in instituting civil suits in the distant courts at Tumlook, a correspondent of the same paper beseeches His Honor to transfer these villages to the jurisdiction of the adjacent sub-division of Ghatal.

GRAMBARTA
PRAKASHIKA,
January 20th, 1875.

9. In a lengthy editorial on the Rural *Páthshálás* and Sir George Campbell, the *Grámbártá Prákáshiká* of the 20th January, after speaking of the beneficent changes, introduced into the Education Department by Sir Richard Temple, on the hasty innovations of his predecessor, regrets that His Honor has not yet attended to the miserable working of the rural pathsálás. These institutions are under the management of Gurumashoys on a salary of Rs. 2-8 or 3 a month, and subject to the inspection of the police, the Magistrates having no leisure to attend to this work. Consequently there is no good derived from these schools, and the money expended on them may be regarded as sheer waste. Unless they are subjected to the entire control of the educational authorities, they will never make any progress. Sir George Campbell established these schools for the education of the lower classes of

(3)

the people. His object was doubtless good, but they have been a failure and much evil results from them. The pupils can, and do learn but very little. They, however, have already begun to look down upon their ancestral occupations and show an eagerness for obtaining situations which are scarce. Under these circumstances parents are not willing to send their children to the pathsálás. To remove these defects, Government is besought to establish, in place of these primary schools, some large pathsálás in suitable places, and teach reading and writing to the pupils during some hours of the day, while they should be allowed to learn agriculture during the rest of the day. As soon as they have learnt a little of the language, they should be taught some work on agriculture. Taught in this way, they will not turn from their ancestral occupations, while at the same time they will enjoy the benefits of education. Parents also will thus be induced to send their children to these páthshálás, and be disposed to bear the expenses of their education.

10. Adverting to the large number of thefts and robberies, during the last year, in Serajunge, and the failure of the police to bring the offenders to justice, the same paper requests the authorities to reform the local police.

11. In an editorial of considerable length, the *Amrita Bazar Patriká* of the 21st January, passionately laments the fall of the Guicowar. The Editor complains that Colonel Phayre was permitted to remain in Baroda, even after the appointment of the Commission. The misery of Baroda and the deposition of the Guicowar would have been perhaps well avoided, if the Resident had been removed at the time that Lord Northbrook first learned of his oppressions on the Guicowar.

GRAMBARTA
PRAKASHIKA.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
January 21st, 1875.

12. The *Education Gazette* of the 22nd January writes the following, in the course of an editorial on the Guicowar:—It is enough to know, that the Governor-General has not hastily decided on annexing the kingdom of Baroda; for he could have, like Lord Dalhousie, issued a proclamation to that effect. He has on the contrary shown much wisdom, and has kept intact the policy of the Queen. We confidently hope, that after the trial of the Guicowar, measures will be adopted in accordance with the gracious pleasure of Her Majesty and the well-known magnanimity of Lord Northbrook. None will have any reason to complain, if the Guicowar is justly deposed owing to his incompetency and misdeeds, and a native Government re-established.

EDUCATION GAZETTE,
January 22nd, 1875.

13. The *Bhárát Sangskárak* of the 22nd January has the following remarks in an editorial, on the proposed abolition of duties on cotton goods at Bombay:—A striking example of how educated and enlightened persons are sometimes blinded by selfishness is afforded by the English merchants. Eager to promote their own good, they entirely overlook the interests of others. Otherwise spirituous liquors would probably never have been introduced into India, nor opium into China, nor would efforts have been made to introduce *charas* into Thibet. And what unreasonable and irrelevant proposals have not the Bombay merchants made in their recent meeting. Government is besought to take steps to increase their income, while the loss to the revenues, which would be incurred in this attempt, is to be met by a reduced expenditure and by postponing for some time the necessary public works. We have not heard more strange things than the above. Tobacco, again, which is a cheap and common article of luxury with natives, is proposed to be taxed, and commerce therein to be made a Government monopoly. Now, who shall save us from these mock friends of India? The Editor hopes that Government will not allow itself to be thus befooled by the selfish merchants, and led to strike a blow at the root of the interests of the natives.

BHARAT
SANGSKARAK,
January 22nd, 1875.

BHARAT
SANGSKARAK.
January 22nd, 1875.

14. Anent the ensuing trial of the Guicowar, the same paper requests Government (1) to appoint Commissioners from Bengal, as well as from Bombay; (2) to appoint some Native Commissioners; and (3) to see that injustice is not done to the Guicowar from a summary trial, which, it is feared, will be resorted to, on the ground that the accused is not a British subject, and, as such, cannot be tried according to the Indian Penal Code.

SAPTARIK SAMACHAR,
January 23rd, 1875.

15. The following is the substance of an article on the Guicowar of Baroda in the *Saptarik Samachar* of the 23rd January:—An eternal blot on his fair fame has been caused by Lord Northbrook's depriving a dependent Prince of his dominions on a charge which is unfounded. From his conduct in quietly surrendering himself to the British Resident, and his protestations of innocence, it is evident that he did not intend to be disloyal to the British Crown. We do not see how his attempt to poison the Resident, a person who had repeatedly sought to deprive him of his kingdom, can be construed into an act of hostility against the British power. He may be convicted as a murderer, and punished accordingly, but a confiscation of his estates by the paramount power is not at all justifiable. The whole of his property has been attached. It will be indeed hard for him to get any to help him, for those that might have been so disposed, would now forsake him for fear of offending the English.

HINDU HITOSHINI,
January 23rd, 1875.

16. The *Hindu Hitoishini* of the 23rd January thus concludes an article on the Guicowar of Baroda:—Baroda is a first-class tributary State. Government should not all at once decide on annexation, for the faults of an incompetent ruler, and the intrigues of a number of designing enemies. Colonel Phayre should also be brought to trial for oppressions, and for doing acts which lay beyond his proper province, and which were in a manner condemned by Government.

DACCA PRAKASH,
January 24th, 1875.

17. The *Dacca Prakash* of the 24th January complains, that an act of great injustice will be done to the Dacca College, nay to Eastern Bengal generally, if the proposed abolition of its 2nd and 3rd year Law classes be carried out into effect. This will only result in the abolition of the higher College classes; for, with the majority of the students, the B.A. classes are attended for no other object than that of obtaining the degree, which is necessary to enable them to appear at the B.L. examination. Now, if the senior Law classes are abolished, there will be no longer any inducement for the boys to remain at Dacca, and study the B.A. course alone. They will, under the circumstances, prefer going to Calcutta, where there are facilities for studying for both examinations. Under the proposed rule of remunerating the Law Professor by fees collected from the pupils, no competent man can be expected to undertake the duties of a professor. Government has decided on abolishing the classes in question, on the plea of a want of funds. Considering that the income from the classes did at one time more than balance the expenditure, nay, there are still Rs. 9,000 as a surplus fund, it is strange that Government does not hesitate to abolish them altogether, because that income has now diminished and the State is put to some expense in maintaining them. The three classes should be kept up at least as long as this surplus fund of Rs. 9,000 continues unexhausted.

DACCA PRAKASH.

18. The remarks of this paper on the Guicowar of Baroda are almost the same as those made by the *Saptarik Samachar* of the 23rd instant.

SOM PRAKASH,
January 25th, 1875.

19. The *Som Prakash* of the 25th January observes, that it is in a manner impossible for natives to learn self-government from the existing municipal institutions, when they are, as now, presided over by European Magistrates, whose will alone on municipal matters is carried into effect.

(5)

The Editor, however, is gratified to learn that a native has been chosen to preside over the Puna municipality.

20. The same paper has an article, headed, "The errors of Lord Northbrook in respect of Baroda." The Editor remarks that it is a matter of regret that even such a wise, far-seeing, and firm person as Lord Northbrook has fallen, through false representations, into such grave errors respecting Mulharao. We are not sorry that the Guicowar is deposed, since his fall will doubtless promote the good of his people, and since he has deserved this fate by his arbitrary and fickle conduct. Nay, further, we were the first to propose his deposition. The course at first taken by Lord Northbrook in respect to Baroda, was eminently satisfactory and worthy of his great name, but the sequel has not been free from grave errors. These are (1) Lord Northbrook should have awaited the completion of the period granted to the Guicowar for reforming his administration. If he had been deposed for incompetency after this period, nobody would have had any reason to complain. He was seeking to introduce reforms. Even Sir Lewis Pelly admitted this. (2) It has not been proper to depose and imprison him before his guilt is proved. That he is innocent of the charge imputed to him, partially appears from the quiet and unsuspecting manner in which he surrendered himself to the British Resident. (3) His instigation to poison the Resident cannot be construed as an act of treason against the British power. His former submission to Government, his friendly treatment of Sir Lewis Pelly, and his general behavior to the paramount power, do not show that he intended to subvert the Queen's rule in India. Even if he has committed treason, his offence should be viewed in a different light from that of a common subject of the British Empire. He was an ally of the English Government. (4) Guicowar being an independent Prince, and having been treated as an equal by the British Government, the Government of India was not justified in deposing and imprisoning him without, in the first instance, taking the permission of the Home Government. (5) The confiscation of the property of the Guicowar will bring on much oppression and will be taken advantage of by wicked characters. (6) It was unwise to allow Colonel Phayre to remain at Baroda, after the appointment of the Commission.

SOM PRAKASH,
January 25th, 1875.

21. Adverting to the fearful oppressions committed on the laborers in the Tea districts by the planters, and the frequent miscarriage of justice in cases in which the latter are defendants, the same paper observes that so long as the system of supplying labor by contract prevails in these districts, oppressions will be unavoidable. The contract system should therefore be abolished, and free labor in its stead employed on the plantations. The system of administration should moreover be changed in these provinces to afford sufficient protection of the law to the laborers. A greater number of courts should be established there.

SOM PRAKASH.

22. The *Sahachar* of the 25th January, in an editorial, on the Guicowar of Baroda, requests Government to allow that Prince facilities and pecuniary aid to engage a sufficient number of barristers and other men competent to offer him advice regarding his approaching trial.

SAHACHAR,
January 25th, 1875.

23. In a rather lengthy article headed "Will there be friendship between the Rulers and the governed," the *Behar Bandhu* makes the following remarks:—Many thorns are visible in the path leading to friendship between the two classes. The road should quickly be made, else there will be no fruit visible. No favorable opportunity, however, for doing so seems to present itself. The days of the English have been bettered by the wealth of

BEHAR BANDHU,
January 26th, 1875.

Hindustan. If they desist awhile from taking this wealth, then will our days improve in turn. There is a trite proverb: "the person who has the stick possesses the buffalo" (*anglice*: "Might is right"). Under these circumstances, then, how can friendship be formed? There is another point to be considered; the English are very proud of the nobility of their race, and until they give this up, an estrangement between the races must exist; and whilst the one is elevated in his own estimation, and the other, *viz.*, the subject, bends low in submissiveness, envy and scorn will daily be on the increase. If a good connection on the other hand subsist between the Rulers and the governed, the day will come when the friendship betwixt them will be as if the two were moulded into the one animate being. It is likewise true that the root of the English rule will be strengthened by friendship such as this. The ruler, who has no confidence in his subject, arms himself for his own safety, leaving the subject without arms; thinks that he alone has a life to guard, whilst the governed are looked upon as animals. It cannot be asserted that the Government is blind to all this. Everyone is not a Lord Northbrook amongst the English. It is very difficult indeed to reconcile everyone. Lord Northbrook exerted himself to alleviate the distress arising from the famine, and his subjects became devoted to him; but the Meares' case produced scorn in the place of devotedness. Be that as it may, it behoves Government to be alive to this matter.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,

The 30th January 1875.

JOHN ROBINSON,

Government Bengali Translator.

*List of Native Newspapers received and examined for the Week ending the
30th January 1875.*

No.	Name.	Place of publication.	Monthly, weekly, or otherwise.	Date.
1	"Páril Bártábaha"	Páril, Mánikgunge	Bi-monthly	13th January 1874.
2	"Grámbási"	Ránághát	Ditto	18th ditto.
3	"Uchit Baktá"	Azingunge, Moorshedabad	Ditto	24th ditto.
4	"Hitasádhini"	Burrisal	Weekly	5th ditto.
5	"Moorshedábád Patriká"	Berhampore	Ditto	9th ditto.
6	"Rungpore Dik Prakásh"	Kákinia, Rungpore	Ditto	14th ditto.
7	"Sádháraní"	Chinsurah	Ditto	17th and 24th January.
8	"Bishwa Dút"	Kálighát, Calcutta	Ditto	13th and 20th ditto.
9	"Hindu Ranjiká"	Bauleah, Rájsháhye	Ditto	20th January.
10	"Burrisal Bártábaha"	Burrisal	Ditto	20th ditto.
11	"Grámbártá Prakáshiká"	Comercolly	Ditto	20th ditto.
12	"Amrita Bazar Patriká"	Calcutta	Ditto	21st ditto.
13	"Education Gazette"	Hooghly	Ditto	22nd ditto.
14	"Bhárat Sangskárák"	Harinávi, 24-Pergunnahs	Ditto	22nd ditto.
15	"Pracháriká"	Burdwan	Ditto	22nd ditto.
16	"Samavedak"	Berhampore	Ditto	22nd ditto.
17	"Sáptáhiik Samáchar"	Calcutta	Ditto	23rd ditto.
18	"Hindu Hitoishini"	Dacca	Ditto	23rd ditto.
19	"Dacca Prakásh"	Ditto	Ditto	24th ditto.
20	"Som Prakásh"	Chángripotáh, 24-Pergunnahs.	Ditto	25th ditto.
21	"Sahachar"	Calcutta	Ditto	25th ditto.
22	"Dút"	Ditto	Ditto	25th ditto.
23	"Sáptáhiik Sambád"	Bhowanipore, Calcutta	Ditto	29th ditto.
24	"Sambád Prabhákar"	Calcutta	Daily	22nd to 28th January.
25	"Sambád Purnachandrodaya."	Ditto	Ditto	23rd to 29th ditto.
26	"Chushmeh-i-ilm" (in Urdu)	Patna	Bi-monthly	1st and 16th January.
27	"Durbín" (in Persian)	Calcutta	Weekly	22nd January.
28	"Jám-Jehán-numá" (in Persian)	Ditto	Ditto	22nd ditto.
29	"Urdu Guide" (in Urdu)	Ditto	Ditto	23rd ditto.
30	"Behár Bandhu" (in Hindi)	Patna	Ditto	26th ditto.

Bengal Secretariat Press.

C. E. G.

CONFIDENTIAL.]

[No. 6 of 1875.]

REPORT ON NATIVE PAPERS

FOR

The Week ending the 6th February 1875.

ADVERTING to the piety and generosity of Rání Sharat Sundarí Debí, of Puntia, the *Hindu Ranjika* of the 27th January asks Government to confer on her a suitable title of distinction in recognition of her merit. Her equally generous minister, Babu Prasanna Kumár Mazumdár, also deserves like honor.

HINDU RANJIKÁ.
January 27th, 1875.

2. The same paper complains that, under the present laws for compelling witnesses to give evidence in a court of law, they are put to considerable inconvenience from not receiving any compensation for the loss of time and comfort which they thus incur. Parties quite ignorant of the facts of a case are sometimes made to appear thus, and are put to endless trouble. Witnesses, moreover, are not treated with due respect in the courts. An invidious distinction, too, is made between the officers of Government and the non-official public in the matter of compensation for loss of time. While the former are allowed it, it is denied to the latter. The attention of Government is drawn to the matter.

HINDU RANJIKÁ.

3. The *Grámbártá Prakáshiká* of the 27th January observes, in reference to existing municipal institutions, that the Native Commissioners have no independence of judgment. They are generally presided over by European Magistrates, whose will alone prevails in connection with all municipal matters. Very little scope is allowed the native members for acquiring the habit of self-government, though that was the primary object with Sir George Campbell. The Editor, however, is gratified to learn that a native has been chosen to preside over the Puna Municipality, and hopes that this example will be followed in other municipalities all over the country.

GRAMBARTA
PRAKASHIKÁ,
January 27th, 1875.

4. The same paper, in an article of considerable length, headed the "Means of increasing the wealth of the country," remarks, that it is almost impossible for natives to make progress in any matter, unless Government comes in to their aid. Endeavours have, indeed, been made, but without success, to introduce gymnastic training into the schools of Bengal by educated natives, before Government took the matter into consideration. It has now been a successful measure, as is attested by the results of the gymnastic tournament recently held at Belvedere. As in gymnastics, so in all other things. Natives, for instance, are lamentably wanting in commercial enterprize. They have no commerce. The country is poverty-stricken; and unless Government exerts itself in the matter, it will remain for ever an impossible task for natives to better their condition and augment the resources of the country. It is to be regretted that the Government of India has not approved of the proposals of the Bengal Government for the preparation of Portland cement in this country. If the proposals had been sanctioned and acted on, a fresh and successful road to wealth might have been secured.

GRAMBARTA
PRAKASHIKÁ.

Hindustan. If they desist awhile from taking this wealth, then will our days improve in turn. There is a trite proverb: "the person who has the stick possesses the buffalo" (*anglice*: "Might is right"). Under these circumstances, then, how can friendship be formed? There is another point to be considered; the English are very proud of the nobility of their race, and until they give this up, an estrangement between the races must exist; and whilst the one is elevated in his own estimation, and the other, *viz.*, the subject, bends low in submissiveness, envy and scorn will daily be on the increase. If a good connection on the other hand subsist between the Rulers and the governed, the day will come when the friendship betwixt them will be as if the two were moulded into the one animate being. It is likewise true that the root of the English rule will be strengthened by friendship such as this. The ruler, who has no confidence in his subject, arms himself for his own safety, leaving the subject without arms; thinks that he alone has a life to guard, whilst the governed are looked upon as animals. It cannot be asserted that the Government is blind to all this. Everyone is not a Lord Northbrook amongst the English. It is very difficult indeed to reconcile everyone. Lord Northbrook exerted himself to alleviate the distress arising from the famine, and his subjects became devoted to him; but the Meares' case produced scorn in the place of devotedness. Be that as it may, it behoves Government to be alive to this matter.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,

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